

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An applicator (1), ~~in particular~~ for use as a mascara brush, comprising a plurality of bristles (2) which are held between two intertwisted wire sections, with the bristles (2) passing through a helical reinforcing element (7), wherein the reinforcing element (7) is a two-flight helix formed by two individual flights of helix each of the flights having a first end engaged to each other at a first end of the reinforcing element and a free second end at the second end of the reinforcing element.

2. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The applicator (1) according to claim 1, wherein threads of the two individual flights are asymmetrical such that a pitch of a first section of the thread is greater than that of a second section, with a free interstice for the bristles (2) to pass through alternatively having a smaller distance B and a greater distance C.

3. (Currently Amended) [[An]] The applicator (1) according to claim 1, wherein ~~free ends~~ the free second ends

(15) of the ~~reinforcing element (7)~~ two individual flights of helix are arranged in ~~one of~~ either a specific annular gap (16) ~~[[and]]~~ or a recess (5) which accommodates free ends of intertwisted wires of the original brush and the free second ends (15) of the ~~two-flight helix~~ two individual flights.

4. (New) The applicator (1) according to claim 1, wherein the first ends of the two individual flights of helix are engaged together by a rounded portion.

5. (New) The applicator (1) according to claim 4, wherein the two individual flights of helix and the rounded portion are formed as a unit.